

Presenter: Robert (“Rob”) J. Ziemba, PE
Signals & Geometrics Railroad & Special Projects Engineer

Topic: RR Preemption in Fuquay-Varina

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Biography:

Rob has spent all of his nearly 10 year career with DOT in Signals & Geometrics. He has been in his current position since June 2004. Rob graduated from NC State in May 1996 with B. S. degrees in both Civil Engineering and Environmental Engineering. He earned a Master of Civil Engineering degree in May 2000. He became a registered professional engineer in January 2001.

Rob has been called North Carolina’s “Railroad Preemption Expert,” having spent much of the last 2 years working on traffic signal railroad preemption locations around the state. He is also actively involved in plan reviews for the Charlotte Area Transit System (CATS) and the Triangle Transit Authority Regional Rail Line. He wrote the preemption section in the *ITS and Signal Systems Design Manual*, and continues to work to improve the formulas and designs used in preemption, as well as the preemption inspection process to ensure continued safe operation.

In addition to railroad preemption, Rob’s position also include handling NC Moving Ahead! projects and special Division signal requests, which sometimes include unique, unconventional “out of the box” designs. He has previously served on NCDOT committees that developed a new driveway and access manual and has written parts of the 2000 and 2003 editions of the *North Carolina Supplement to the MUTCD*.